

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Juergen WESTERMANN et al.

Examiner: Chandrakumar, Nizal

Serial No.: 10/559, 389

Group Art Unit: 1625

Filed: 16 March 2007

Confirmation No.: 7342

Title: PROTECTED 5,7-DIHYDROXY-4,4-DIMETHYL-3-OXOHEPTANOIC  
ACID ESTERS AND 5,7-DIHYDROXY-2-ALKYL-4,4-DIMETHYL-3-  
OXOHEPTANOIC ACID ESTERS FOR SYNTHESIZING EPOTHILONES  
AND DERIVATIVES DERIVATIVES AND METHODS FOR PRODUCING  
THESE ESTERS

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY**

Mail Stop:  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on 20 November 2008, please amend the claims as follows and consider the remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.